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CLASSIFICATION ~~SECRET~~
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COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone)

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TOPIC Departure of Soviet Troops from Weissenfels

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 EVALUATION _____ PLACE OBTAINED _____ 25X1

DATE OF CONTENT 15 to 18 April 1952

DATE OBTAINED _____ DATE PREPARED 30 April 1952

REFERENCES _____ 25X1

PAGES 1 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) _____

REMARKS _____

25X1

1. On 15 April 1952, the Pionier Kaserne on the south side of Selauerstrasse, Weissenfels (M 52/J 99), was occupied to capacity by about 3,000 troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets with tank or artillery insignia. Starting 16 April, trucks shuttled from the installation to the railroad station with billeting equipment, suitcases and boxes. Other trucks drove toward the railroad station carrying 20 soldiers each. The soldiers wore red-bordered black epaulets with tank or artillery insignia and were equipped with small arms. Twenty-three T-34 tanks, _____

_____ moved out of the Pionier Kaserne toward Zeitz (M 52/K 08) at about 7 a.m. Trucks continued hauling billeting equipment to the railroad station on 17 April. About 400 troops with red-bordered black epaulets and small arms fell in in the barracks yard. The barracks installation appeared to be vacant at 7:30 a.m. on 18 April. Several trucks were parked in the yard _____

_____ moved out of the billeting area toward Zeitz. _____
 _____ a tank unit was still stationed in the Pionier Kaserne.

25X1

2. The units from the Infanterie Kaserne on the north side of Selauerstrasse, had entrained between 15 and 17 April. Billeting equipment was hauled to the railroad station on trucks. About 30 artillery pieces, 1 JS-3 tank and 2 SP guns were lined up in front of the garages on 15 April. Numerous trucks and amphibious cars were in the garages. On 16 April, soldiers with black-bordered red epaulets loaded billeting equipment on trucks which drove to the railroad station. Forty trucks towed an artillery piece each and 10 other trucks a 120-mm mortar each. About 400 troops wearing black-bordered red epaulets assembled in the barracks yard on 17 April. The installation was almost vacant and the garages were empty on 18 April.

3. The cooperative store on Thornerstrasse was closed to officers on 17 April. *

* _____ Comment. The report indicates that the 17th Gds Tank SP Regt and the 174th Gds Mtz Rifle Regt of the 57th Gds Mtz Rifle Div from the barracks installation on Selauerstrasse left their quarters, allegedly for a prolonged training period. However, it does not indicate which troop training grounds the components of the 57th Gds Mtz Rifle Div have gone. Advance details of the division have been observed at Kindel since mid-March 1952. _____

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